1: Federal W-5 (no date) 1986
NN23 Sea Islanders NN23
Georgia

Walking sticks (Plate IIIa, IIIb) were brought to our attention. One had a lizard carved on its handle,* while the likeness of a snake twisted its body realistically about the length of the stick.[50, 70a-b] On a similar stick of dull, yellowish wood the tense, erect head of the large reptile which wrapped itself about the cane formed the handle.[50] In the gaping mouth was held a ball. Even the smallest detail had been delicately and artistically executed. We could learn little of the history of the stick except that it had been carved many years ago by an old Negro who had given it to the present owner and soon afterward moved away from the section.** The snake decorating [50] a third cane had eyes of rhinestones[41c] which gleamed and flashed as the stick was moved about.†

Crude hand-carved wooden table utensils were in use in several households.[70a-b] We were shown a fork (Plate IIc) with only two prongs set wide apart on the far sides of the base. One of the spoons (Plate IIc) was about the size of an average tablespoon, but with a bowl of considerably greater depth.‡

One Negro showed much ingenuity in the carving of a linked chain § with a box-like object attached (Plate Ia). Inside the box was a small wooden ball. This entire contraption had been made from one solid piece of wood.[70d-h] Another man employed his spare time in the carving of small wooden dolls, jointed and so designed that they could stand alone.[41e-i] §§

An old Negro (Plate V) living in very poor circumstances owned a number of interesting objects.‖ These he said he had inherited from a grandfather who had come to this country from Santo Domingo, West Indies. Among the ob-

* *Made by and property of William Brown, Florence Street.*
** *Property of Henry Haynes, 41st and Harden Streets.*
† *Crawford Smith, 1704 Ogeechee Avenue.*
‡ *Made by and property of Alfred Wilcher, 810 West 31st Street.*
§ *Ibid.*
§§ *Made by and property of Marion Ralph, 2411 Harden Street.*
‖ *Julian Linder, 612 West 36th Street.*

A, [See Category 322, plates following p. xxxii-C, B, & A--Analyst]
B, [See Category 142, plate following p. xxxii-E--Analyst]

1: Federal W-5 (no date) 1986
NN23 Sea Islanders NN23
Georgia

jects were old coins, a pistol, and a pocketbook made of shells clamped together with metal bands. The most significant item, however, was a carved stone fig (Plate IIIc).[A] The grainy texture and the slight splits in the skin had been executed with great skill. The fig had been carried as a charm by the old man's ancestor, but where this forebear had obtained it we were unable to learn.[8, 32, 34e]

On the Ogeechee Road not far from Brownville we came in contact with a Negro * whose favorite pastime was carving.[70a**] He showed us the figure of a man (Plate IVb),[B] about twenty-seven inches high, with heavy shoulders and torso overbalancing the lower part of the figure. The head was large and square, the eyes were painted on roughly, and the nose and mouth were attached pieces of wood. A wooden crane and other birds carved by the same man bore a crude, primitive stamp.[70c, d, g]

Near by on the Ogeechee Road we found Tony William Delegal,** an old man (Plate VII),[C] well over one hundred years old, who was formerly a slave of Major John Thomas, Harris Neck, plantation owner. His dark eyes are filmed, his once powerful shoulders are bent, but Uncle Tony can still recall incidents which took place during his childhood on the plantation. Sitting on the front porch of his daughter's house, he sang an African song to us. Unfortunately he did not know the English translation. The old man sang the song over and over and we were finally able to take down the following:

Wa kum kum munin
Kum baba yano
Lai lai tambe
Ashi boong a nomo
Shi wali go
Ashi quank.

* *Lee Ross, Ogeechestown, near Brownville.*
** *Tony William Delegal, Ogeechestown, near Brownville.*

A, [See Category 324, plate following p. xxxii-C--Analyst]
B, [See Category 532, plate following p. xxxii-B--Analyst]
C, [See Category 142, plate following p. xxxii-G--Analyst]